



Index of Texas Archaeology: Open Access Gray Literature from the Lone Star State

Volume 2014

Article 19


2014

The Classification of Late Caddo Period Utility Ware Jars from Sites in the Big Cypress Creek Basin of East Texas

Timothy K. Perttula

Center for Regional Heritage Research, Stephen F. Austin State University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.sfasu.edu/ita>

 Part of the [American Material Culture Commons](#), [Archaeological Anthropology Commons](#), [Environmental Studies Commons](#), [Other American Studies Commons](#), [Other Arts and Humanities Commons](#), [Other History of Art, Architecture, and Archaeology Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

[Tell us](#) how this article helped you.

Repository Citation

Perttula, Timothy K. (2014) "The Classification of Late Caddo Period Utility Ware Jars from Sites in the Big Cypress Creek Basin of East Texas," *Index of Texas Archaeology: Open Access Gray Literature from the Lone Star State*: Vol. 2014 , Article 19. <https://doi.org/10.21112/.ita.2014.1.19>

ISSN: 2475-9333

Available at: <https://scholarworks.sfasu.edu/ita/vol2014/iss1/19>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by SFA ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Index of Texas Archaeology: Open Access Gray Literature from the Lone Star State by an authorized editor of SFA ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact cdsscholarworks@sfasu.edu.

The Classification of Late Caddo Period Utility Ware Jars from Sites in the Big Cypress Creek Basin of East Texas

Creative Commons License



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

THE CLASSIFICATION OF LATE CADDO PERIOD UTILITY WARE JARS FROM SITES IN THE BIG CYPRESS CREEK BASIN OF EAST TEXAS

Timothy K. Perttula

Introduction

Much of the decorated utility wares found in Titus phase mortuary vessel assemblages in the Big Cypress Creek basin of East Texas has been typologically identified over the years as “Miscellaneous Fulton Aspect [Late Caddo] Utility Pottery” (Suhm and Jelks 1962:Plates 79 and 80; see also Thurmond 1990), which has hindered the full appreciation of the stylistic, temporal, and stylistic diversity that exists among these decorated utility wares; it has also hampered any consistent typological identifications or definitions between sites in the region, or to the extra-local region. The diversity apparent in the decorated utility wares from Titus phase sites has a considerable potential to shed light on the existence and spatial distribution of communities of Caddo potters sharing or not sharing utility ware decorative practices and traditions from both short-term and long-term temporal scales, if only more useful classification of the decorative elements found on these wares can be devised.

Classification System

In order to more systematically categorize the decorated utility wares in documented vessel assemblages from Titus phase sites, specifically the utility ware jars from Titus phase cemetery contexts, a rim and body coding system has been devised to sort the unique rim and body decorative elements and motifs found on these vessels.¹ Use of the rim/body codes can be used—in conjunction with available information on the temporal context and spatial distribution of the different rim/body code classes from individual vessel assemblages—to redefine the typological character of Titus phase utility ware jars. The purpose of developing this classification is to proceed with the idea of consistently and better characterizing the relative proportions (and locations of different decorative elements and motifs on the vessels themselves) of the different decorative elements and motifs in the utility ware vessel assemblages.

Rim codes on the utility ware jars begin with 01, for plain rims, and at present there are 66 different identified rim codes (Table 1), most of them from rims with punctated or incised decorative elements. Body codes also begin with 01, for utility ware vessels with plain bodies, and extend to 73 at present, with many including applied ridge and fillet decorative elements. Both rim and body codes can be expanded as needed to encapsulate new decorative elements beyond those identified at the present time. In this classification system, to categorize the decoration of utility ware vessels, it is necessary to list both rim and body codes, with the rim code listed first in the sequence. For example, the rim/body code of 02/01 is a jar with a row of tool punctates beneath the lip only (02) and a plain body (01). Other jars may have multiple rim and body codes because there are distinct decorative motifs and elements on each part of the vessel (Figure 1), as for example: 19-23/03-20 is a vessel with random tool punctates (19) and vertical applied fillets (23) on the rim and vertical brushing (03) and overlapping brushing (20) on the vessel body.

Table 1. Titus phase utility wares (jars), decorative elements and motifs, rim and body codes.

Rim Code	
01	Plain
02	row of tool punctates beneath the lip
04	2 rows of tool punctates
07	3 rows of tool punctates
08	1 row of tool punctates midway on rim
10	tool punctated row at rim-body juncture
15	5 rows of tool punctations
16	4 rows of tool punctations
19	random tool punctates
20	9 rows of small tool punctations
22	3-6 rows of linear punctations
30	vertical tool punctated columns
36	diagonal linear tool punctates
41	vertical linear tool punctate rows
42	8 rows of tool punctates
46	small circular tool punctated row below lip
48	horizontal linear punctations
51	6 rows of tool punctates
61	7 rows of tool punctates
63	10 rows of tool punctates
64	vertical tool punctated rows
47	vertical pinched rows
63	diagonal pinched rows
03	roughened
05	horizontal brushed
29	vertical brushed
55	diagonal brushed
43	horizontal brushed with tool punctated rows through brushing
45	vertical brushing with tool punctated rows through brushing
12	horizontal brushed-incised
49	vertical brushed-incised
09	vertical incised lines
14	opposed hachured incised lines

- 26 horizontal incised lines
- 28 horizontal incised line at rim-body juncture
- 31 opposed diagonal incised lines
- 32 closely-spaced horizontal incised lines
- 33 closely-spaced diagonal incised lines
- 34 closely-spaced vertical incised lines
- 35 broad horizontal incised line at rim-body juncture
- 37 incised triangles filled with diagonal incised lines
- 38 incised triangles filled with cross-hatched incised lines
- 39 diagonal incised panels
- 57 diagonal incised lines
- 58 incised triangle
- 60 cross-hatched incised lines

- 44 horizontal grooved area at rim-body juncture

- 06 opposed hachured incised lines and tool punctated rows at lip and rim-body juncture
- 17 incised scroll and tool punctated scroll fill zone
- 21 incised triangles filled with tool punctations
- 24 broad horizontal incised lines with tool punctates between them
- 25 diagonal incised panels filled with tool punctates
- 59 meandering incised scroll filled with tool punctates
- 66 vertical incised and vertical tool punctated panels filled with diagonal incised lines and horizontal tool punctated rows

- 11 appliqued nodes
- 18 vertical appliqued ridges
- 23 vertical appliqued fillet
- 27 horizontal appliqued fillet at rim-body juncture
- 40 vertical column of appliqued nodes
- 62 appliqued scroll

- 50 vertical appliqued fillet panels filled with diagonal incised lines

- 13 rows of neck banding

Body Code

- 01 Plain
- 02 vertical brushed-incised
- 03 vertical brushed
- 20 overlapping brushed

27	horizontal brushed
31	opposed brushing
40	diagonal brushed
28	horizontal combing
04	applied ridge chevrons and applied diamond ridge
06	vertical applied fillets and applied chevron fillets
09	vertical applied fillets
10	vertical applied ridges
12	applied fillet chevron
15	applied nodes
17	applied fillet diamond
18	applied fillet semi-circle
19	applied fillet triangle
22	panels of vertical applied ridges
23	applied fillet circles
24	applied nodes with tool punctates on the node
26	applied ridge chevron
29	vertical-curvilinear applied fillet
33	vertical column of applied nodes
37	oval-shaped applied zones
38	curvilinear applied ridges
39	applied circle with applied node within it
43	applied diamonds-circles-and scrolls
47	applied ridge triangles
50	panels of vertical and horizontal applied fillets filled with applied fillets
64	applied scroll and applied triangles
66	horizontal applied fillet
67	applied scroll and circle
68	applied scroll and diamond
69	semi-circle applied ridge
16	applied ridge scrolls and circles, nodes, and brushed fill
32	applied ridges with diagonal brushed fill
36	vertical applied fillets with vertical-diagonal-opposed brushed fill
49	vertical applied ridges with brushing between the ridges
35	panels of vertical applied fillet panels filled with vertical linear tool punctates
42	large applied triangle with rows of circular punctations on it
51	panels of vertical applied fillets filled with vertical incised lines
05	vertical incised lines
07	incised diamond motif
13	diagonal incised lines

21	opposed/hachured incised panels
30	cross-hatched incised lines
34	incised chevron
41	incised triangle
61	incised triangles filled with horizontal incised lines
63	vertical incised panels filled with diagonal incised lines
65	diagonal opposed incised lines
72	vertical and curvilinear incised lines
71	incised chevrons and tool punctated-filled triangles
08	random tool punctates
11	horizontal tool punctated rows
14	horizontal linear punctated rows
25	vertical tool punctated row
45	diagonal linear punctations
48	vertical linear punctations
53	punctuation-filled triangles
58	X-shaped tool punctated rows
59	finger nail punctated chevron
52	vertical tool punctated panels filled with vertical incised lines
62	vertical tool punctated panels filled with diagonal incised lines
60	vertical tool punctated panels filled with vertical brushing
44	horizontal pinched rows
46	concentric pinched rows
54	vertical pinched rows
55	diagonal pinched rows
70	vertical pinched panels filled with diagonal brushed-incised lines and diagonal incised lines

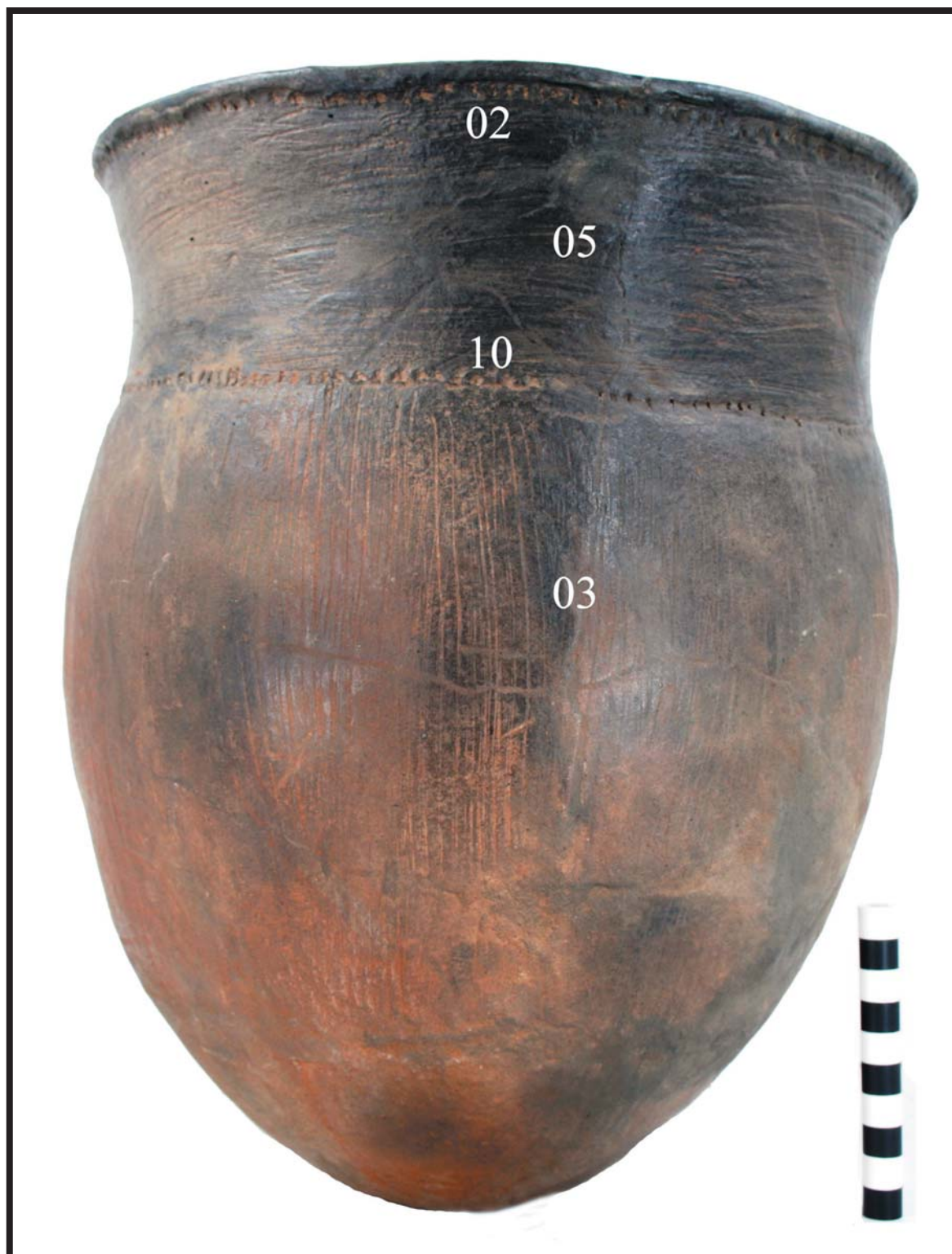


Figure 1. Brushed-punctated utility ware jar from the Shelby site (41CP71), with 02, 05, and 10 rim code elements and 03 body code element.

Assemblage Comparisons

Using the defined rim and body codes listed in Table 1, I have examined and classified a sample of 258 utility ware jars from a number of Titus phase mortuary assemblages in the Big Cypress and Little Cypress Creek basins in East Texas (Figure 2): Tuck Carpenter (41CP5, n=265 vessels), Johns (41CP12, n=283 vessels), and Shelby (41CP71, n=69 vessels) in the Big Cypress Creek basin, and Henry Spencer (41UR315, n=184 vessels), Enis Smith (41UR317, n=87 vessels) and Frank Smith (41UR326, n=70 vessels) (Perttula 2010a, 2010b, 2010c, 2012a, 2012b, 2012c). The total vessel assemblages for these sites—including both plain wares, utility wares, and fine wares—is 958 vessels; utility ware jars represent approximately 27% of the vessel sample.

As a pilot effort, I am particularly interested in defining the range of decorative variability in these utility wares, and in identifying important similarities and differences in the range of decorative motifs on their rim and the body. The results of this utility ware jar rim-body code classification are presented in Table 2. Samples of utility ware jars by assemblage range from 17-72 vessels.

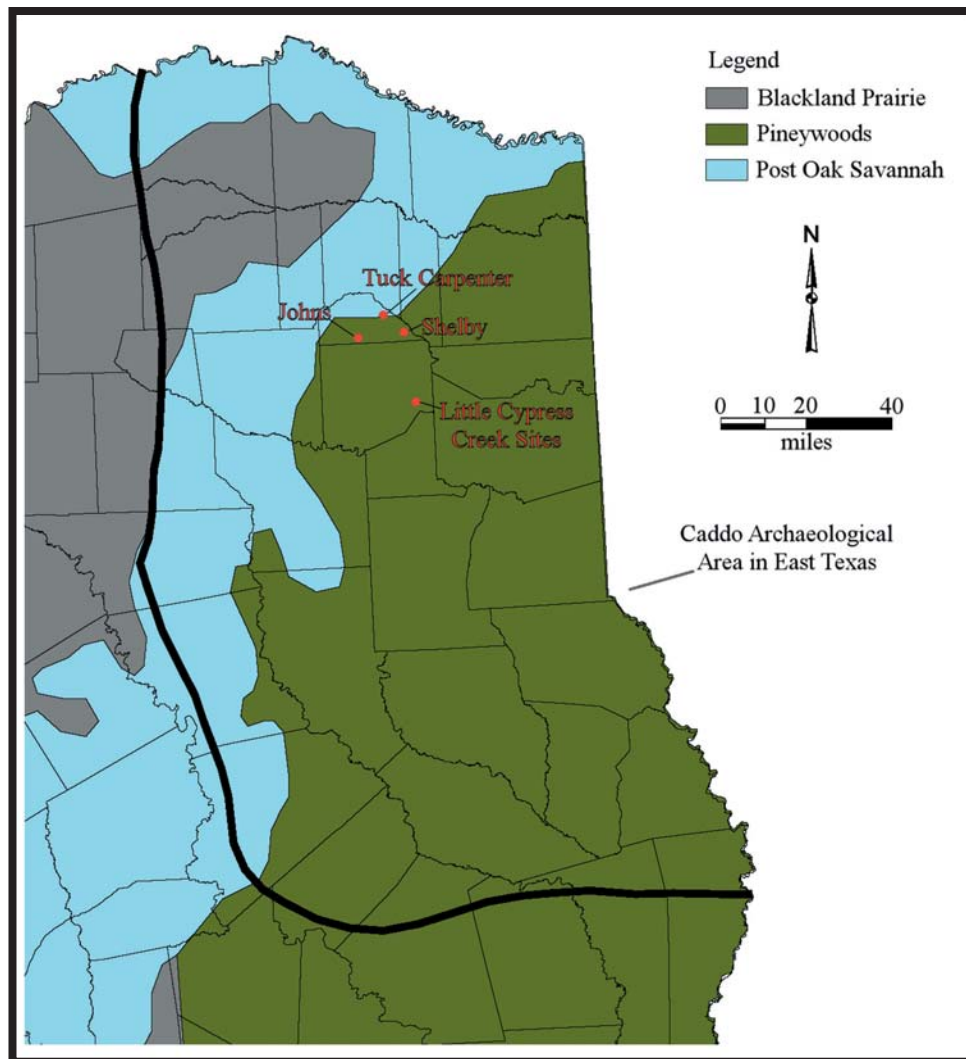


Figure 2. General locations of the Titus phase sites with samples of utility ware jars.
Prepared by Lance Trask.

Table 2. Titus phase jar samples.

Rim/ body code	Tuck Carpenter	Johns	Henry Spencer	Enis Smith	Frank Smith	Shelby
Vessels with Plain rims and bodies						
Plain/Plain 01/01	-	3	4	-	1	-
Vessels with Decorated rims and plain bodies						
Brushed 05/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
Brushed-Incised 12/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
Brushed-punctated 05/02/10/01	-	-	1	-	-	-
Incised 09-35/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
14/01	-	1	-	-	-	-
32/01	-	-	-	-	-	1
33/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
65/01	-	-	-	-	-	1
Incised/Punctated 26-02-10/01	-	-	1	-	-	-
51-35-36/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
59/01	-	-	1	-	-	-
60-14-02-10/ 01	-	-	-	-	1	-
66-02-10/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
Neck Banded 13/01	3	1	-	-	-	1
Neck Banded/ Appliqued 13-18/01	-	-	-	-	-	1
13-40/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
Neck Banded/						

Appliqued/ Punctated						
13-46-11/01	-	1	-	-	-	-
Pinched						
47/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pinched/Incised/Punctated						
63-36-35/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
Punctated						
02-10/01	-	-	-	1	-	-
04-22/01	-	1	-	-	-	-
16/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
16-30/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
22/01	-	-	1	-	-	-
42/01	-	1	-	-	-	-
51/01	-	1	-	-	-	-
Punctated/ Appliqued						
07-11/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
07-23/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
15-11/01	-	-	-	-	-	1
Punctated/ Incised						
04-9/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
04-33/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
07-26/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
21/28/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
22-35/01	-	1	-	-	-	-
36-28/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
60-10/01	1	-	-	-	-	-
Roughened						
03/01	1	-	-	-	-	-

Vessels with Plain Rims and Decorated Bodies

Appliqued body						
01/10	2	-	-	-	-	-
01/10-26	2	1	-	-	-	-
01/10-47	1	-	-	-	-	-
01/39	1	-	-	-	-	-
01/42-10	-	1	-	-	-	-
01/69-39	-	-	-	-	1	-

Appliqued-incised body						
01/09-05	-	-	-	-	-	1
01/17-07	-	-	-	-	-	1
Brushed body						
01/03	-	1	-	-	-	-
Incised body						
01/09	-	-	-	1	-	-
Pinched body						
01/54	-	-	-	-	1	-
Punctated body						
01/08	-	-	1	-	-	-

Vessels with Decorated Rims and Bodies

Appliqued rim/appliqued body						
18/10	1	-	-	-	-	-
40/47-10	1	-	-	-	-	-
Appliqued rim/appliqued-brushed body						
23/36	-	-	-	1	-	-
Appliqued-incised-punctated rim/brushed body						
04-50/03	-	1	-	-	-	-
Appliqued-punctated rim/appliqued-incised body						
52/51	-	-	1	-	-	-
Brushed rim/appliqued body						
05/10	1	-	-	-	-	-
05/10-33	1	-	-	-	-	-
05/10-26	1	-	-	-	-	-
05/23-15	1	-	-	-	-	-
05/50	-	1	-	-	-	-
05/64	-	-	-	1	-	-
05/67	1	-	-	-	-	-
Brushed rim/brushed body						
05/03	2	5	1	-	-	-
05/03-20	-	-	1	-	-	-
05/03-31-40	-	1	-	-	-	-
05/20	1	1	-	-	-	-
05/27	-	1	-	-	-	-

05/27-40	-	1	-	-	-	-
05/27-40-20	-	-	-	-	1	-
05/40	-	-	1	-	-	-
05-55/03	-	-	1	-	-	-
29/27-31	1	-	-	-	-	-
Brushed rim/brushed-combed body						
29/27-28	1	-	-	-	-	-
Brushed rim/brushed-appliqued body						
05/36	-	-	1	-	-	-
05/49	-	1	-	-	-	-
Brushed rim/incised body						
05/34	-	1	-	-	-	-
Brushed rim/punctated body						
05/25	1	-	-	-	-	-
Brushed-appliqued rim/appliqued-incised body						
05-40/09-41	-	1	-	-	-	-
Brushed-appliqued rim/incised body						
05-23/07-41	-	1	-	-	-	-
Brushed-incised rim/brushed-incised body						
49/02	-	1	-	1	-	-
Brushed-incised rim/incised-punctated body						
12/71	-	-	-	-	-	1
Brushed-incised-punctated rim/brushed body						
12-02-10/03	-	-	1	-	-	-
Brushed-incised-punctated rim/incised-punctated body						
12-02-10/62	-	-	2	-	-	-
Brushed-punctated rim/appliqued body						
05-02-10/10	-	-	-	-	1	-
05-02-10/68-24	-	-	-	1	-	-
05-02-10/17	-	-	-	-	1	-
43/09	-	-	-	1	-	-
Brushed-punctated rim/appliqued-brushed body						
05-10/26-32	1	-	-	-	-	-
29-05-02-10/36	-	-	-	-	-	1
29-10/16	-	1	-	-	-	-
43/36	-	1	-	-	-	-
Brushed-punctated rim/appliqued-incised body						
05-10/09-34	-	-	1	-	-	-
Brushed-punctated rim/brushed body						

05-02-10/03	-	1	1	-	-	1
05-02-10/ 40-20	-	-	-	1	-	-
05/03-20	-	-	1	-	-	-
05-10/03	-	1	-	-	-	-
29-02-10/27	-	-	-	-	-	1
29-10/03	1	-	-	-	-	-
43/03	-	-	1	1	-	-
43/20-40	-	1	-	-	-	-
43/40	1	-	-	-	-	-
45/03	-	1	-	-	-	-
55-02-10/20	-	-	1	-	-	-
Brushed-punctated rim/brushed-incised body						
05-02-10/70	-	-	-	-	-	1
Brushed-punctated rim/brushed-pinched body						
05-02-10/ 54-03	-	-	1	-	-	-
Brushed-punctated rim/brushed-punctated body						
05-02-10/ 03-40	-	-	1	-	-	-
05-10/03-25	-	-	1	-	-	-
29-02-10/60	-	-	1	-	-	-
45/03-58	-	-	1	-	-	-
Brushed-punctated rim/incised body						
05-04/05	1	-	-	-	-	-
43/05	-	-	1	-	-	-
Brushed-punctated rim/incised-punctated body						
05-02-10/62	-	-	1	-	-	-
Brushed-punctated rim/punctated body						
43/25	-	-	1	-	-	-
Incised rim/appliqued body						
09/67-66	-	-	-	-	1	-
14/19	-	-	-	1	-	-
Incised rim/appliqued-brushed body						
09/36	-	-	1	-	-	-
26/12-32	-	-	1	-	-	-
Incised rim/appliqued-punctated body						
26-58/09-25	-	-	1	-	-	-
Incised rim/brushed body						
14/03	2	-	-	-	-	-
26/40	-	1	-	-	-	-
31/03	1	-	-	-	-	-
35/03	-	-	-	-	1	-
Incised rim/incised body						

09-28/05	-	1	-	-	-	-
37-38/34	1	-	-	-	-	-
39/05	1	-	-	-	-	-
57/05	-	-	1	-	-	-
57/13	-	-	1	-	-	-
60/13-65	-	-	-	1	-	-
Incised-appliqued rim/appliqued body						
09-18/64	-	-	-	1	-	-
Incised-appliqued rim/appliqued-punctated body						
62-58/15-48-66	-	-	-	1	-	-
Incised-grooved rim/brushed body						
31-44/03	-	1	-	-	-	-
Incised-punctated rim/appliqued body						
04-09/67	-	-	-	1	-	-
09-02/66-68-69	-	-	-	-	1	-
26-02-10/09	-	1	-	-	-	-
26-02/67-24	-	-	-	-	1	-
31-02/09	-	1	-	-	-	-
Incised-punctated rim/appliqued-brushed-incised body						
26-04-48/19-17-41-07-03	-	1	-	-	-	-
Incised-punctated rim/appliqued-brushed-punctated body						
14-10/36-25	-	-	1	-	-	-
Incised-punctated rim/brushed body						
07-57/03	-	-	-	-	1	-
09-02-10/03	-	-	-	-	1	-
09-02-10/27-20	-	-	-	-	1	-
58-02-10/03	-	-	1	-	-	-
Incised-punctated rim/brushed-incised body						
04-58/02	-	-	1	-	-	-
Incised-punctated rim/incised body						
21-02-10/63	-	-	1	-	-	-
54-02-10/13	-	-	1	-	-	-Incised-
punctated rim/incised-punctated body						
04-26/52-53	-	1	-	-	-	-
26-02-10/52	-	-	1	-	-	-
Incised-punctated rim/punctated body						
21/08	-	-	-	-	1	-

Neck banded rim/appliqued body						
13/10	-	1	-	-	-	-
Neck banded rim/appliqued-brushed body						
13/09-03	-	-	1	-	-	-
Neck banded rim/brushed body						
13/03	-	-	-	1	-	1
13/03-20	-	1	-	-	-	-
13/27-40	-	-	1	-	-	-
Neck banded rim/incised body						
13/05	-	1	-	-	-	-
Neck banded-appliqued rim/brushed-incised body						
13-40/02	1	-	-	-	-	-
Neck banded-grooved rim/brushed body						
13-44/03-40	-	1	-	-	-	-
Neck-banded-incised rim/brushed body						
13-35/03-20	-	1	-	-	-	-
Neck-banded-incised rim/incised-punctated body						
13-33/72-53	-	-	-	-	-	1
Neck-banded-punctated rim/brushed body						
13-10/20-40	-	-	1	-	-	-
Neck-banded-punctated rim/brushed-punctated body						
13-10/40-25	-	1	-	-	-	-
Pinched rim/appliqued body						
47/43	-	1	-	-	-	-
Pinched rim/brushed body						
56/03	-	-	1	-	-	-
63/03-40	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pinched rim/pinched body						
47/54	-	-	1	-	-	-
53/46	-	-	1	-	-	-
Punctated rim/appliqued body						
02-10/17-19	-	-	-	1	-	-
02-10/19	1	-	-	-	-	-
04/09	-	-	1	-	-	-
07/09	1	1	-	-	-	-
07/09-19	1	-	-	-	-	-
07/09-37	-	1	-	-	-	-
07/10	2	-	-	-	-	-

07/17	1	-	-	-	-	-
07/33	-	-	-	-	-	1
10/38-19-39	-	1	-	-	-	-
15/19-17	-	-	-	1	-	-
19/12	1	-	-	-	-	-
22/10	1	-	-	-	-	-
22/12-09	-	1	-	-	-	-
61/10	-	-	-	1	-	-
64/33	-	-	-	-	-	1
Punctated rim/appliqued-brushed body						
02/10-40-20	-	-	1	-	-	-
42/36	-	1	-	-	-	-
Punctated rim/appliqued-incised body						
07/29-05-30-13	1	-	-	-	-	-
07/41-07	-	1	-	-	-	-
19/17-07	-	-	-	-	-	1
Punctated rim/appliqued-punctated body						
08-10-41/35	-	1	-	-	-	-
16/09-48	-	1	-	-	-	-
22/09-48	-	1	-	-	-	-
22/35	-	1	-	-	-	-
Punctated rim/brushed body						
04/03	-	2	-	-	-	-
07/03	3	1	-	-	-	-
07/03-20	-	1	-	-	-	-
07/40	-	1	-	-	-	-
08/03	-	1	-	-	-	-
15/03	-	1	-	-	-	-
19/03	1	-	-	-	-	-
Punctated rim/brushed-incised body						
04/02	-	-	1	-	-	-
16/02	1					
Punctated rim/brushed-pinched body						
51/54-03	-	-	-	-	-	1
Punctated rim/incised body						
07/05	1	-	-	-	-	-
16/05	-	1	-	-	-	-
19/61	-	-	1	-	-	-
22/34	-	1	-	-	-	-
42/05	-	-	1	-	-	-
Punctated rim/incised-punctated body						
02/56-57	-	-	1	-	-	-
Punctated rim/pinched body						
02/54-44-55	-	-	1	-	-	-

Punctated rim/punctated body						
04/59	-	-	1	-	-	-
15/45	-	1	-	-	-	-
Punctated-appliqued rim/appliqued body						
07-11/09	-	-	-	-	-	1
07-11/10	-	-	1	-	-	-
15-11/09	-	-	-	-	-	1
Punctated-appliqued rim/appliqued-brushed body						
04-23/36	-	1	-	-	-	-
Punctated-appliqued rim/appliqued-incised body						
07-11/51	-	1	-	-	-	-
Punctated-appliqued rim/brushed body						
11-02-10/27	-	-	-	-	1	-
Punctated-appliqued rim/brushed-incised body						
30-11/40-13-	-	-	1	-	-	-
30						
Punctated-appliqued rim/incised body						
07-40/13	1	-	-	-	-	-
Punctated-grooved rim/appliqued-incised body						
15/41-47	-	1	-	-	-	-
Punctated-incised rim/brushed body						
15-28/03	1	-	-	-	-	-
15-35/03	1	-	-	-	-	-
Roughened rim/appliqued body						
03/67	-	-	-	-	1	-
Roughened-punctated rim/brushed-punctated body						
03-10/73	1	-	-	-	-	-
<hr/>						
Totals	71	72	59	18	17	21

Sources: Perttula 2010a, 2010b, 2012a, 2012b, and 2012c.

Summary and Conclusions

The overwhelmingly number of utility ware jars from these Titus phase mortuary assemblages are decorated, as only 3.1% of the jars are plain on both the rim and the body (see Table 2). There is little difference between the sites in the proportions of plain jars (ranging from 0-6.8%), or between sites in the Big Cypress Creek basin (1.8%) and the Little Cypress basin (5.3%).

Not only are almost all the utility ware jars in these assemblages decorated (96.9%), but the diversity of, and the combinations used in, the decorative elements and motifs on the rims and bodies of these vessels is quite impressive, as was already apparent simply from an examination of the number of defined rim and body codes (see Table 1) for these vessels. One of the characteristics of East Texas Caddo utility ware pottery—and indeed, much of the pottery made in the Caddo area—is the fact that decorations on the rim are often different both in decorative method and element than the decorations on the body of vessels, and that is certainly the case here. Even more compelling from a stylistic perspective is the frequency with which multiple decorative elements and methods independently occur *on both the rim and the body of vessels* (see Table 2).

At the broadest level of comparison, there are geospatially distinct differences in the occurrence of rim and body codes on utility ware vessels from these Big Cypress Creek and Little Cypress Creek basin sites, and it is likely these differences in decorative style expressed on the utility ware jars by Late Caddo, Titus phase potters reflect social identities (and iconographic meaning) predicated on differences in ceramic practices and local traditions, just as do geospatial differences in the engraved fine wares found on the same sites. One clear difference between the two sets of utility ware jars is in the proportion of vessels with decorated rims and plain bodies: 21.3% of the Big Cypress Creek basin vessels, but only 6.4% of the Little Cypress Creek basin vessels. Related to this is a difference between the assemblages in the proportions of utility ware vessels decorated on both the rim and the body: 70% of the Big Cypress Creek basin vessels and 84% of the Little Cypress Creek basin vessels. Vessels with plain rims and decorated bodies are equally represented in assemblages in both basins: 4.3% in the Little Cypress Creek basins and 6.8% in the Big Cypress Creek basin sites.

Looking in more detail at Table 2 to illustrate the distinctiveness of the two vessel assemblages, there are only very few rim and/or body decorated combinations on the vessels that are represented by more than one or two vessels. These include vessels with horizontally brushed rims and vertically brushed bodies (05/03, n=8, 3.1% of the vessel assemblage); vessels with neck banded rims and plain bodies (13/01, n=5, 1.9%); vessels with three rows of tool punctations on the rim and vertically brushed bodies (07/03, n=4, 1.6%); vessels with a plain rim and vertical and chevron-shaped applied ridges on the body (01/10-26, n=3, 1.2%); and vessels with horizontal brushing on the rim, along with rows of tool punctations under the lip and at the rim-body juncture and vertical brushed bodies (05-02-10/03, n=3, 1.2%).

Of those utility ware jars decorated only on the rim, the majority of them in the Little Cypress Creek basin assemblages have incised-punctated decorative elements (50% of the six such vessels). Conversely, in the Big Cypress Creek basin, this category of utility ware jar has rim decorations that tend to emphasize rows of tool punctations (44%), neck bands and neck bands with applied nodes and ridges (24%), and simple geometric incised elements (15%) (see Table 2). There are also decorative differences between the vessel assemblages in the two basins for the utility ware jars decorated only on the body. Little Cypress Creek basin jars have incised, pinched, and punctated body decorations (75%), but none of the Big Cypress Creek basin utility ware jars do. Instead, the assemblages there are predominately decorated with applied (73%) or applied-incised (18%) elements on the vessel body, including vertical applied ridges, vertical applied fillets, applied chevrons, applied triangles, and applied circles, as well as sets of vertical incised lines, these most likely representing

examples of what have been included in the Harleton Applied type (Suhm and Jelks 1962:Plate 33c-d). One other utility ware jar in the Big Cypress Creek basin vessel sample with a plain rim has vertical brushing marks on the vessel body (see Table 2).

Big Cypress Creek and Little Cypress Creek basin assemblages of Titus phase utility ware jars that are decorated on both the rim and the body—the most common decorative combination—have both similar and different decorative combinations that are also distinctive. First, similarities between the two assemblages include: (1) the decoration of vessels with brushing on both the rim and the body; (2) decorating vessels with brushing and tool punctations on the rim and brushing on the body; (3) vessels with incised-punctated rims and applied bodies; (4) vessels with neck banded rims and brushed bodies; and (5) vessels with punctated-applied rims and applied bodies. Second, with respect to broad differences between the two vessel assemblages, there are several worth noting:

(1) vessels with brushed-applied and brushed-incised rims and incised or applied-incised bodies; vessels with incised rims and brushed bodies; vessels with neck banded rims with brushed, incised, and punctated bodies; and vessels with punctated rims with applied, brushed, and incised bodies are more common in the Big Cypress Creek basin sites, and (2) vessels with brushed-incised-punctated rims and brushed or incised-punctated bodies; vessels with brushed-punctated rims and brushed, pinched, punctated, and incised bodies; vessels with incised rims and applied and applied-brushed bodies; and vessels with incised-punctated rims and brushed, incised, and punctated bodies are prevalent in the Little Cypress Creek basin sites.

The rim and body codes permit a more detailed examination of the similarities and differences between these rim-body decorated utility wares from the Big and Little Cypress Creek basins. In the case of rim decorations on vessels decorated on both the rim and body, vessels with brushed rims are twice as common in Big Cypress Creek basin assemblages (14%) than they are in the Little Cypress Creek basin (7.4%) even though horizontal brushing (05) is the principal decorative motif, while brushed-punctated rims are much more abundant (20.2%) in the latter sites than they are in the Big Cypress Creek basin sites (8.5%). Brushed-punctated rims on utility ware jars the Little Cypress Creek basin most commonly have horizontal brushing and two rows of punctations, one row under the vessel lip and the other at the rim-body juncture (05-02-10) or have horizontal brushing with rows of tool punctations pushed through the brushing (43 and 45).

Incised and incised-punctated decorations on the rims of utility ware jars comprise 22% of the Little Cypress Creek vessels, but only 6.7% of the Big Cypress Creek basin vessels, although there is little in the way of differences in the decorative elements between the two assemblages other than a preference for incised-punctated decorations on the Little Cypress Creek vessels to have two rows of punctations on the rim, one row under the lip and the other at the rim-body junction. In fact, regardless of whether the rim is brushed, incised, or applied on all of these utility ware vessels, more than 22% of the Little Cypress Creek basin vessels have this combination (02-10) of rim punctation, compared to only 4.3% of the Big Cypress Creek basin vessels. Opposed diagonal (31) and horizontal incised (26) elements are prevalent on the rim on the incised and incised-punctated Big Cypress Creek basin vessels compared to vertical, opposed hachured, triangles, and chevrons for the Little Cypress Creek basin vessels (see Table 2).

Neck banded vessels (La Rue Neck Banded, see Suhm and Jelks 1962:Plate 47) are equally represented in the two sets of assemblages: 5.5% in the Big Cypress Creek basin and 4.3% in the Little Cypress Creek basin. However, in the Big Cypress Creek basin vessels, many of these have multiple decorative elements on the rim (i.e., applied, grooved, and incised, rim codes 40, 44, 35, and 33) that the Little Cypress Creek basins do not.

Another difference between the rim decorations on the rim-body decorated utility ware jars is apparent in the rim punctated jars. First, 29% of the Big Cypress Creek basin jars are rim punctated, versus only 15% of the Little Cypress Creek basin vessels. Furthermore, Big Cypress Creek basin jars were most commonly decorated with three rows of tool punctates (07), three to six rows of linear tool punctates (22), or four rows of tool punctates (16). Little Cypress Creek basin jars more commonly have two rows of tool punctates (04) and a single row of tool punctates under the lip (02) (see Table 2).

The range of decorative elements on the bodies of rim-body decorated utility ware jars is considerable in both vessel assemblages, and the kinds of decorative elements are much more similar between the two assemblages than is the case with the rim decorations just discussed. In rank order, the four most common body decorations by decorative method on utility ware jars in both the Big and Little Cypress Creek basins are brushing (23.4-28.0% by basin), appliqué (17.1-18.1% by basin), incising (6.8-8.5%), and applied-brushed (3.7-5.3%). Other important decorative methods include applied-incised (3.7%) in the Big Cypress Creek basin and incised-punctated (5.3%) in the Little Cypress Creek basin assemblages.

With respect to body code differences between the Titus phase vessel assemblages, vertical brushed (03) bodies are much more common, regardless of the rim decoration, in the Big Cypress Creek jars, as are vertical applied fillets (09) and vertical applied ridges (10), vertical columns of applied nodes (33), panels of vertical applied fillets filled with vertical linear punctates (35), incised diamonds and triangles (07-41), and vertical incised lines (05). Little Cypress Creek basin vessels are more likely to have been decorated on the body of decorated rim-body vessels with overlapping and diagonal brushing (40-20), vertical brushed-incising (02), applied scrolls and applied triangles (64), applied fillet diamonds and triangles (17-19), and vertical punctated panels filled with diagonal incised lines (62) (see Table 2).

In conclusion, the definition of discrete rim and body codes for plain and decorated vessel surfaces in a pilot study of Late Caddo, Titus phase utility ware jars from six vessel assemblages in the Big and Little Cypress Creek basins in East Texas has (a) led to an appreciation of the considerable stylistic variability that exists in utility ware jars, and (b) has contributed to the recognition of both specific local and regional scale stylistic differences and similarities in these utility ware jars through element by element comparisons on rims and/or bodies that would not be possible were one to rely on the identification of known ceramic types in the region. The ceramics from these Late Caddo sites in the Big and Little Cypress Creek basins are quite distinctive in stylistic terms, namely in the choices made by various Caddo potters in the decorations of utility wares. As such, these stylistic differences and similarities across the Big and Little Cypress Creek basins (and presumably in other parts of the Titus phase homelands, see Perttula 2012:Figures 13-1 and 13-2) likely mark the social boundaries between different but related populations or cultural lineages that shared certain levels of cultural transmission. That is, the Caddo potters in the two basins had a diverse set of ideas about ceramic vessel decoration for utility wares (and fine wares), and these certain shared and/or distinctively different stylistic motifs and decorative patterns marked closely related but different communities and constituent groups in the two basins. These spatial differences in utility ware jar manufacture and use as recognized in vessel assemblage composition between contemporaneous sites is thought to represent the spatial extent of socially distinct Caddo populations who nevertheless had considerable interaction and cultural transmission.

As places on the landscape, these sites—along with the many other ancestral Caddo sites that have been investigated in the Big and Little Cypress Creek basin in East Texas—and the people that lived there (and buried their dead there) were part of a broader social world linked and cross-cut by networks of social groups tied together through regional interaction (cf. Joyce 2012; Mills et al. 2013). There were particular ways of doing things that have been identified at the local and regional scale of ceramic stylistic analysis in the archeological record at Caddo sites in the Big and Little Cypress Creek basins that can be interpreted as representing separate

constellation of practices (i.e., traditions) that continued and persisted over time. The social engagement of Caddo peoples that can be detected in such a manner in the East Texas archeological record provides a window to understand and appreciate the fact that social relationships were broad and pervasive over many generations.

Finally, I have not chosen to link the vessel rim and body codes with specific defined types and varieties in the current East Texas Caddo ceramic taxonomy (i.e., Suhm and Jelks 1962). However, this could certainly be done were one so inclined after more utility ware jars classifications from other generally contemporaneous Late Caddo period Titus phase assemblages across the region have been done, thus bolstering vessel assemblage sample sizes, particularly assemblages whose ages have been confidently established through numerous radiocarbon dates as well as thermoluminescence dating of ceramic sherds—so as to better establish both the temporal and spatial distributions of vessels with unique rim and body codes. However, whether this system of rim and body definitions for utility ware jars can be melded with what would need to be better defined Caddo ceramic types and varieties, or if the system presented herein can stand on its own as a ceramic classificatory endeavor that emphasizes the detailed analysis of stylistic diversity and variability—which I think it can—is ultimately less important than whether such approaches to ceramic typological analysis “help archeologists answer thoughtfully framed questions about the past” (Story and Jelks 2009:4). Meanwhile, rim and body code analyses of utility ware jars from Caddo sites in East Texas will continue.

End Notes

1. This classification system is reminiscent of Ford’s (1936:19-23) in that it is numerically based and identifies specific motifs and decorative elements. In Ford’s system, however, he made no distinction between whether the decoration was on the rim and body, and his numerical system was based on decoration motif, decoration elements, and the adaptation and arrangement of features, whereas the present system is decorative method-based.

References Cited

Ford, James A.

- 1936 *Analysis of Indian Village Site Collections from Louisiana and Mississippi*. Anthropological Study No. 2. Louisiana Department of Conservation, Baton Rouge.

Joyce, Rosemary A.

- 2012 Thinking about Pottery Production as Community Practice. In *Potters and Communities of Practice: Glaze Paint and Polychrome Pottery in the American Southwest, A.D. 1250-1700*, edited by Linda S. Cordell and Judith A. Habicht-Mauche, pp. 149-154. No. 75. Anthropological Papers of the University of Arizona, University of Arizona Press, Tucson.

Mills, Barbara J., Jeffery J. Clark, Matthew A. Peeples, W. R. Haas, Jr., John M. Roberts, Jr., J. Brett Hill, Deborah L. Huntley, Lewis Borck, Ronald L. Breiger, Aaron Clauset, and M. Steven Shackley

- 2013 Transformation of social networks in the late pre-Hispanic US Southwest. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 110(15):5785-5790.

Perttula, Timothy K.

- 2012 The Character of Fifteenth- to Seventeenth-Century Caddo Communities in the Big Cypress Creek Basin of Northeast Texas. In *The Archaeology of the Caddo*, edited by Timothy K. Perttula and Chester P. Walker, pp. 363-410. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln.

Perttula, Timothy K., P. Shawn Marceaux, and Bo Nelson

- 2012a *Study of the Margaret Hinton Collection of Pottery Vessels from Northeast Texas Caddo Cemeteries*. Special Publication No. 24. Friends of Northeast Texas Archaeology, Austin and Pittsburg.

Perttula, Timothy K., Bo Nelson, and Mark Walters

- 2010c Documentation of Additional Vessels from the Johns Site (41CP12), Camp County, Texas. *Journal of Northeast Texas Archaeology* 33:93-105.
- 2012b *Caddo Archaeology at the Henry Spencer Site (41UR315) in the Little Cypress Creek Basin of East Texas*. Special Publication No. 20. Friends of Northeast Texas Archaeology, Pittsburg and Austin.

Perttula, Timothy K., Mark Walters, and Bo Nelson

- 2010a *Caddo Pottery Vessels and Pipes from Sites in the Big Cypress, Sulphur, Neches-Angelina, and Middle Sabine River Basins in the Turner and Johns Collections, Camp, Cass, Cherokee, Harrison, Morris, Titus, and Upshur Counties, Texas and Sabine Parish, Louisiana*. Special Publication No. 10. Friends of Northeast Texas Archaeology, Pittsburg and Austin.
- 2010b *Caddo Pottery Vessels and Pipes from the Johns Site (41CP12) in the Big Cypress Creek Basin in the Turner and Johns Collections, Camp County, Texas*. Special Publication No. 11. Friends of Northeast Texas Archaeology, Austin and Pittsburg.
- 2012c *Little Cypress Creek Basin Archaeology: Six Late Caddo Period Cemeteries in Upshur County, Texas*. Special Publication No. 22. Friends of Northeast Texas Archaeology, Austin and Pittsburg.

Story, Dee Ann Suhm and Edward B. Jelks

- 2009 Foreword. In 2009 Reprint Edition of *Handbook of Texas Archeology: Type Descriptions*, edited by Dee Ann Suhm and Edward B. Jelks, pp. 1-5. Gustavs Library, Davenport, Iowa.

Suhm, Dee Ann and Edward B. Jelks (editors)

- 1962 *Handbook of Texas Archeology: Type Descriptions*. Texas Archeological Society Special Publication 1 and Texas Memorial Museum Bulletin 4, The University of Texas at Austin.

Thurmond, J. Peter

- 1990 *Archeology of the Cypress Creek Drainage Basin, Northeastern Texas and Northwestern Louisiana*. Studies in Archeology 5. Texas Archeological Research Laboratory, The University of Texas at Austin.